

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02
AID-05 IO-13 /082 W
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O R 141607Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5882
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1335
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1673

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

FROM MCHENRY AND PETTERSON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV SF WA UN US
SUBJ: NAMIBIA TALKS: BRIEFING OF INVOLVED PARTIES

1. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER
DAVID HALSTED, WE LOCATED TWO PROMINENT BLACK NAMIBIAN
CLERGYMEN LATE LAST NIGHT (JUNE 13) AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF DAR ES SALAAM BEERHALL (WORLD-WIDE CONFERENCE OF
LUTHERANS IS TAKING PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY). BISHOP
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JOHANNES LUKAS DEVRIES OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND BISHOP LEONARD AUALA OF THE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN OVAMBO-KAVANGO CHURCH WERE PLEASED WE
HAD SOUGHT THEM OUT AND APPRECIATIVE OF THE BRIEFING.
2. WE FIRST TALKED TO DEVRIES. DURING THE BRIEFING
HE INITIALLY REJECTED THE IDEA OF A SOUTH AFRICAN
BECOMING THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL. HE SAID THAT ONLY

A NAMIBIAN (E.G., AUALA OR HIMSELF) COULD COMMAND THE RESPECT OF A BROAD SPECTRUM OF NAMIBIANS. HOWEVER, AFTER WE HAD EXPLAINED THAT THIS WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE SAG, THAT SAG APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL IS BUT ONE PART OF A PACKAGE, AND THAT A KEY ELEMENT OF THE PACKAGE WILL BE UN SUPERVISION OF THE WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL AT EVERY STAGE OF THE POLITICAL PROCESS, DEVRIES SEEMED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL.

3. DEVRIES MADE THE POINT THAT THE CHURCH IN NAMIBIA (ANGLICANS AND CATHOLICS AS WELL AS LUTHERANS) SUPPORTS THE FIVE-POWER INITIATIVE. HE HAD TOLD SAM NUJOMA PREVIOUSLY THAT IF NUJOMA DID NOT RESPOND IN A REASONABLE FASHION, THE CHURCH WOULD WITHDRAW ITS SUPPORT FROM HIM, WOULD IN FACT OPPOSE HIM ON THIS MATTER. HE HAS PASSED WORD TO NUJOMA THAT HE AND AUALA, WHO WILL BE IN DAR FOR TWO WEEKS, WANT TO MEET WITH NUJOMA THERE. IF THEY SUCCEED IN GETTING TOGETHER WITH HIM, THEY WILL REITERATE THAT HE MUST END THE RHETORIC AND GET DOWN TO SERIOUS BUSINESS OF WORKING WITH OTHERS FOR A SETTLEMENT.

4. AT MIDNIGHT, AUALA, WHO HAD BEEN MEETING WITH NAMIBIAN STUDENTS, JOINED US FOR FURTHER TALK AND MORE BEER. AFTER BRIEFING, HE TOO VOICED CONCERN ABOUT A SOUTH AFRICAN OCCUPYING THE POST OF ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL. FURTHER EXPLANATION OF THE EXTENT OF UN INVOLVEMENT AND THAT THE A-G COULD NOT ACT WITHOUT APPROVAL, AS IT WERE, OF UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, SEEMED TO ALLAY HIS CONCERN. LIKE DEVVRIES, HE THANKED US AND STATED THAT HE

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SUPPORTED WHAT THE WEST WAS DOING ON THE NAMIBIAN ISSUE.

5. WE TOLD THEM THAT THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE'S EMBASSIES IN CAPE TOWN WOULD GO TO WINDHOEK FRIDAY TO BRIEF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES. THEY WELCOMED THIS AND TOLD US THEY DISAGREED WITH NUJOMA'S OPPOSITION TO THE WINDHOEK BRIEFINGS.

6. COMMENT: WE WERE FORTUNATE TO FIND AND TALK WITH DEVRIES AND AUALA. VOCAL OPPONENTS OF SOUTH AFRICAN CONTROL OF NAMIBIA AND UNOFFICIAL SUPPORTERS OF THE SWAPO MOVEMENT, THEY ARE HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL IN THE TERRITORY. ALTHOUGH THEIR INFLUENCE IS STRONGEST AMONG OVAMBOS, IT EXTENDS BEYOND THEIR 350,000 PARISHONERS, CUTS ACROSS TRIBAL LINES AND, IMPORTANTLY, HAS SIGNIFICANT WEIGHT AMONG MANY SWAPO MEMBERS. THUS THEIR SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS IS IMPORTANT AND WE SHOULD NOT MISS ANY OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP THEM INFORMED.

7. FOR USUN: PLEASE PASS ABOVE TO CONTACT GROUP MEMBERS.
CLINGERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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